

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image forming apparatus which notifies the upper apparatus of its said operation mode has: a discriminating information holding unit which holds discriminating information; a display control information holding unit which holds display control information for displaying the operation mode of the image forming apparatus by such information; a discriminating information obtaining unit which obtains the discriminating information in response to the obtaining request; and a communicating unit which transmits the discriminating information and the display control information to the upper apparatus and transmits the present discriminating information to the upper apparatus when the obtaining request is made again by the upper apparatus. A data communication amount on a network can be reduced by an operation mode notifying method.